
NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire
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GREGG JOINS MANCHESTER OFFICIALS, DARTMOUTH/HITCHCOCK SPECIALISTS TO KICK-OFF HIV/AIDS TREATMENT PROGRAM

MANCHESTER, N.H. -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today joined Manchester Mayor Bob Baines and Nashua Mayor Bernie Streeter to announce the beginning of the Southern New Hampshire Integrated Care Program, a Dartmouth-Hitchcock lead project to help Manchester and Nashua provide outpatient and primary care service for low-income, medically underserved people living with or at risk of contracting AIDS/HIV. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently awarded Dartmouth-Hitchcock a "Ryan White CARE Act" Early Intervention Services grant totaling \$1.3 million for a three and a half year period. Senator Gregg, the Ranking Member and incoming Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, contacted the Department of Health and Human Services earlier this year in support of Dartmouth-Hitchcock's application. Carl DeMatteo MD, infectious disease and HIV specialist for Dartmouth-Hitchcock, was also on hand to give an overview of the grant and discuss the effort of the involved communities.

Senator Gregg stated, "The Southern New Hampshire Integrated Care Program will serve as a tremendous resource for those living in southern New Hampshire who are either at risk for or who have contracted HIV/AIDS. These services are essential for those dealing with HIV/AIDS and the network of clinics, hospitals and doctors who are participating in the program will ensure it is not only comprehensive, but effective as well. Once again, Dartmouth-Hitchcock has been recognized by national health experts as a leader in the field of medical care and they are to be congratulated for their initiative and dedication to starting such an important program."

Carl DeMatteo will direct the Early Intervention Services program. He hailed the grant award and the efforts of Senator Gregg, saying, "Rates of HIV infection are increasing nationally among women, minorities, and young adults, and New Hampshire is by no means immune. This grant will allow us to address gaps in the existing care network and provide needed care, assistance, and support to people in New Hampshire affected by HIV."

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Dartmouth-Hitchcock is the lead agency for the Southern NH Integrated Care

program – two community networks of health care providers and service organizations in Manchester and Nashua. Southern NH Integrated Care is a collaborative network of primary and infectious disease medical providers, HIV/AIDS service organizations, registered dietitians, community health centers, community mental health centers and providers, substance abuse treatment centers and providers, engaged consumers and other community organizations providing services for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program will provide primary medical care; HIV specialty care; medical care coordination; case management; HIV counseling, testing, referral and partner notification services; dental care; mental health care; substance abuse treatment; nutrition therapy; HIV prevention services; access to clinical research trials; and medical interpretation services. In Manchester, most services will be provided primarily at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Manchester and the Greater Manchester AIDS Project, and in Nashua, services will be provided at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Nashua, Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force, Hudson Family Practice and St. Joseph Family Practice.

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